## **RMD Bulletin**

## Knowledge is power...

## News Release from Social Security



On February 11, 2010, the Social Security Administration announced the addition of 38 new Compassionate Allowance Conditions to its list (see attached). This is the first expansion since the original list of the 50 conditions was announced in October 2008. The new conditions range from adult brain disorders to rare diseases that primarily affect children.

According to Social Security, the expansion of the scope of Compassionate Allowances means tens of thousands of Americans with devastating disabilities will now get approved for benefits in a matter of days rather than months and years. Compassionate Allowances are a way of quickly identifying diseases and other medical conditions that clearly qualify for Social Security and Supplemental Security Income disability benefits. It allows the agency to electronically target and make speedy decisions for the most obviously disabled individuals.

Social Security will begin electronically identifying these 38 new conditions as of March 1, 2010. This information can be used when interviewing your clients for Benefit Assessment.

For more information about the agency's Compassionate Allowances initiative, or to view the complete list of conditions, go to <a href="https://www.socialsecurity.gov/compassionateallowances">www.socialsecurity.gov/compassionateallowances</a>.

## We're here to help you...

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact RMD at (213) 480-3444 or e-mail RevenueManagement@dmh.lacounty.gov.

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